Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Belleville, Sumpter Township, & the Charter Township of Van Buren

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NEELEVILE-AREA NDEPENDENT

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FREE

School Board approves purchase of four school buses from Hoekstra

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

The Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education unanimously approved purchase of four new school buses at its regular meeting Monday.

Financial Director Shareen Barker presented the request for three 65-passenger conventional buses at a cost of \$80,581 each, totaling \$241,743, and one special education lift bus for a cost of \$83,931, for a total cost of \$325,674.

The purchase was by bid through the MSBO/MAPT Bus Purchasing Program. Hoekstra was the low bidder without the corrosion and structural warranty and the high bidder once the 10-year warranty was added.

But, Barker pointed out, the warranty was not provided by the other vendors. She said the district has a very good history with Hoekstra.

The approved 2016-17 budget included funds for the purchase of the four buses and the total cost was actually \$19,401 under budget.

Barker said over half of the buses in the district's fleet are over eight years old. She said eight years is the recommended life of a bus.

"We are currently reviewing our bus inventory to determine a new bus replacement schedule," Barker said.

She said the current MSBO Bus Purchasing Program window closes in January. Purchasing the buses at this time enables the district to participate in the purchasing program and permits enough time for the vendor to build and deliver the buses before the fiscal year end.

The old buses will go to auction and whatever funds they bring will go into the general fund.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the board:

• Approved setting the school board's (continued on page 18)



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

At Monday's meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education the newly elected board members were ceremoniously sworn in by 34th District Court Judge David Parrott. From left are Simone Pinter, Kelly Owen, Susan Featheringill, Keith Johnston, and Judge Parrott. They officially take office at the Jan. 9 organizational meeting.

Van Buren Township's new board approves 2017 budget on 4-3 vote

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

The Van Buren Township Board of Trustees passed the 2017 general fund budget including wage schedules on a 4-3 vote at its regular meeting on Dec. 6.

Voting no were Trustees Reggie Miller, Sherry Frazier, and Paul White. Yes votes came from Trustee Kevin Martin, Treasurer Sharry Budd, Clerk Leon Wright, and Supervisor Kevin McNamara.

After a long discussion on the budget, Trustee Miller said she would be voting no because wages were given unfairly. She said a budget time is not the time to give raises. She said it is not right for employees to be evaluated during the budget process.

Trustee Miller said the wage increases includes over 3% for some employees.

"Some are great employees, but that is not the point," Miller said. "It's the way the process was handled."

Trustee Frazier said she was going to vote no because she agrees with Trustee Miller on the raises. And, she does not agree with the clerk's salary raise of \$3,500 because he wants to have parity with Treasurer Sharry Budd.

"Mrs. Budd worked for the township for 25 years and rolled in her longevity pay," Trustee Frazier said. "The clerk rolled in his longevity pay. One worked for eight years, one for 25. Everyone got 3%. To give the clerk equal to the treasurer, he's awarded for something he didn't work for."

Clerk Leon Wright contended they were all newly elected officials with no xx. As to his raise in pay, "That's what I'm proposing."

"It's like they can decide whatever pay they want," Frazier said. She also referred to the supervisor's pay that went from about \$82,000 in 2016 to \$86,000.

Trustee Kevin Martin supported Clerk Wright's proposal, based on the work he does.

"It's up to the board to decide," Trustee Miller said. "We asked the board to suggest a salary and he did."

"I'm not going to sit here and hear my salary ridiculed," Clerk Wright said. "It's improper."

Trustee Paul White, former township supervisor, said of the budget that, "This is one of the most important decisions we make."

, (continued on page 17)

Po's attorney Ruark says: 'Sumpter Twp. is selling drugs'

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

"Sumpter Township is selling drugs," said attorney Ronald Reese Ruark, attorney for Nelson Po.

"Sumpter sold 200 pounds of marijuana to Nelson for \$40,000. Any way Sumpter spins this, it's a drug transaction."

Ruark refers to a Deferred Prosecution Agreement finalized on Nov. 3, 2015 with a cashier's check from Po for \$40,000 made payable to Sumpter Township. The agreement was signed by Sumpter Police Chief James Pierce, township attorney Robert P. Young, Nelson and Clarita Po and the Pos' attorney Ruark.

In the agreement, the Sumpter Township Police Department agreed to sell Po the 200 pounds of marijuana it seized from him on Sept. 11, 2015 in exchange for \$40,000.

The agreement was contingent on Potaking immediate steps to totally cease operating his medical marijuana business at 45205 Harris Road in Sumpter Township by April 15, 2016.

However, based on the language of a search warrant obtained by Sumpter Township Police Department on Aug. 16, 2016, police did not require Po to renew his license with Sumpter and allowed Po to continue operating at 45025 Harris without a license beginning April 16.

The search warrant, submitted to the court as Exhibit B, reads in part, "This location has had its license suspended as of 04-16-16. The Township has agreed to forgo the suspended license with the understanding that Po diligently pursue moving the marijuana grow out of the residential zone into the industrial zone."

Ruark is due to be in Wayne County Circuit Court on Friday to present the judge with three motions, two exhibits to support his motions, and a brief in support of the motion to suppress evidence in what he calls "the unlawful search of the defendant's property on Aug. 16."

In a brief in support of a motion to dismiss the charges on the grounds of "entrapment by estoppel" Ruark requests an evidentiary hearing.

Entrapment by estoppel is an affirmative

(continued on page 11)

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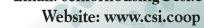
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Court Watching:

Cahill pleads guilty to five charges in death of girl in crash

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

Charles James Cahill, 49, of Sumpter Township on Nov. 22 pled guilty to five charges including homicide that could bring him up to life in prison.

Cahill appeared before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Bruce U. Morrow, who accepted his guilty pleas and will sentence him on Jan. 13.

Cahill, who had a long list of drunkdriving convictions on his record, has been in the Wayne County Jail without bond since he was arrested at the scene of the July 27 accident that led to the death of 12-year-old Victoria Mack.

Cahill pled guilty to murder in the second Charles Cahill degree, operating while intoxicated causing death, operating with high blood alcohol content, driving while license suspended

causing death, and driving with open intoxicants in the vehicle. He also is labeled a habitual offender, which stiffens the sentence.

The charges stem from the 8:18 p.m.

The charges stem from the 8:18 p.m., July 27 accident at the corner of Willis and Martinsville roads in Sumpter Township. Cahill reportedly was northbound at more than 80 mph on Martinsville in a GMC Yukon when he collided with a minivan with Victoria in the back seat.

Victoria was a student at the Ann Arbor

Magnet School in Detroit and would have been in the seventh grade this school year.

According to the Michigan Department of State, Cahill's long list of driving violations dates to 1986 and continued through May.

His driving record includes multiple instances of driving with a suspended license, disobeying traffic signals and seven accidents. According to his driving record, two accidents were listed on June 27, 1996

 one in Westland with no injuries and another in Livonia with one person injured.

Belleville planners recommend ordinance change to council

By Rosemary K. Otzman *Independent* Editor

After about 45 minutes of discussion at its Dec. 7 meeting, the Belleville Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend to city council that it amend the zoning ordinance to allow one-story structures to be built on Main Street, backing off from the two-story requirement now on the books.

Commissioner John Juriga made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Michael Renaud to amend the zoning ordinance's Section 3.1.7 (D) Building Height and Placement to allow one-story structures with a minimum height of 14 feet plus a façade of four feet or more. The 14 feet should be a clear interior height for at least a depth of 15 feet. The commission passed the motion unanimously.

The meeting started with a public hearing on the zoning ordinance's height requirement in the B-2 district. The city council had directed the commission to study the height requirement and make a recommendation.

The recommendation for the amendment will be on the Dec. 19 city council meeting agenda and then the council is expected to vote on it at a January meeting.

It all started when Steve Davenport of Davenport Brothers Construction showed up at the Sept. 8 planning commission meeting to tell of his proposal to build a single-story building at 337 Main Street.

The problem was the city requires two-story buildings in B-2 zoning. Davenport said he made an offer to buy the property and has a tenant which is a financial group and a retail tenant.

"The timeframe is critical," Davenport said. "I've got tenants who would like to occupy the new building ... We may lose these tenants."

At the end of the meeting, after much discussion, planning commission chairman Steve Jones set up a subcommittee to look into the city's two-story requirement,

plus the requirement for retail stores. Volunteers from the planning commission for the subcommittee were Jesse Marcotte, Michael Hawkins, and Matthew Wagner.

And then the city council got involved, directing the planners to come up with a recommendation on the subject of the building height requirement in B-2 zoning.

At the Dec. 7 public hearing Davenport Brothers' architect Wayde Hoppe asked what the results were of the "task force" on the issue.

Commission chairman Jones said the results were mixed and one member thought it was good to have a height requirement.

Vice chairman Michael Hawkins interrupted Jones' remarks and said he is the only member of the subcommittee present, since Marcotte resigned to take a seat on the city council and Wagner was absent.

Hawkins said Jones was mistaken about mixed opinions and the subcommittee members all agreed to recommend amending the ordinance to allow one-story buildings on Main Street.

Hoppe said he understands the idea to want taller buildings on Main Street and when property is expensive, you can build upward. But, if that is not the case, it's less expensive to buy another lot.

"Forcing to go two stories doesn't make sense for a developer," Hoppe said. "We have a reason to be downtown. In the future a time may come when you'd want to build up. I would be in agreement with your amendment."

Hoppe said Davenports could make the building whatever style the city wants.

Steve Davenport said he plans a 1:12 slope roof and he'd rather build a slope than a box.

"This is just a change in the ordinance and has nothing to do with your site plan," Jones said.

City Councilman Tom Fielder said from the audience that he does not speak for the whole council, but the council is not interested in changing the overall look of the downtown, but to seek an alternative to the two-story requirement.

"We want to keep the long-range philosophy you have for the downtown," Fielder said.

Jeff Vernon asked from the audience if a building could be built with the intention of building up in the future.

"If it's constructed so you could add an upper story," Renaud replied.

"There's no requirement to build a second story," Hawkins said.

"That would be more of a building department issue than zoning," said DPW Director Rick Rutherford.

When questions about the roof came up, Hoppe said a low-slope roof is planned, not a shingled roof.

After the motion passed to recommend an amendment to the part of the ordinance on building heights, City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said the ordinance subcommittee wanted to change other things in the ordinance, as well.

Hawkins said since they will soon be working toward a revised master plan, they thought the changes could be worked on in that way.

"We need to start it any day now," Kollmeyer said of the master plan that must be reviewed every five years.

Hoppe said the ordinance for B-2 zoning requires 50% dedicated to retail and, "Normally, retail follows demand."

Hawkins pointed out that a developer could seek special land use approval to get relief from the 50% retail requirement.

"If a developer came to the planning commission and said we have 50% retail and 50% not retail and it is approved and later the retail entity leaves and there is only one tenant [an office] so the other space can't be occupied," Hoppe said.

Planning consultant Steve Cassin of Giffels Webster said they would need to apply for special land use for a tenant. He said his firm had a similar situation in New Baltimore and they applied for a special land use.

"What if they are denied?" Hoppe

"You have to follow the ordinance,"

Jones pointed out that the city went from 100% retail required to 50% a few years back

Hoppe said there are three different spaces planned in the building, so two would have to be retail.

Jones called out the names of businesses on that block, with Belles being the only retail.

Hoppe asked if a petitioner can apply in advance for special land use for his building and Cassin said that is not the usual way because the city wants to see if they are compatible.

"We have three tenants who want to move downtown and one is retail," Hoppe said.

"If I had two retail tenants and they leave in six months and I can't lease it out, I'm at your mercy in the future," Davenport said.

"There may be some things we won't allow," Jones said.

Juriga said once the new library is built and twice as many people are coming to use it, "It will change the personality of the city."

Davenport said Van Buren Township is building and there's something in the ground at Hull Road.

"I don't like that design," Jones said of the proposed drawing shown of the Davenport building, noting the frontage for each of the three businesses is too small.

Davenport said the building would be about 6,000 square feet and that would be three spaces of 2,000 square feet. The front of the building, lot line to lot line, is 83 feet across. That would be 26.5 feet each or so, which is suitable for offices.

Rutherford pointed out the council meeting room was 18 feet across.

Belleville Area Independent/December 15, 2016

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Editorial

Sumpter shocked at Michigan Humane Society notice

At Tuesday's meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, Police Chief Eric Luke said he was shocked by a notice from the Michigan Humane Society that it is cancelling its contract to take Sumpter's

It gave Sumpter until the end of January to find another place to take its dogs.

Chief Luke said he contacted them and asked if Sumpter had done anything wrong and he was told they didn't but they are changing their structure. He said officials were very short with him which he couldn't understand because the Humane Society has been working with Sumpter for many years.

"We have to have somewhere to take our dogs," Chief Luke said. He said police try to get strays back to their owners. And, Pete and Marcy from Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue, a non-kill shelter, have helped by coming in and taking dogs that were adoptable. Pit bulls are taken to pit bull rescue groups. And, that leaves some for the Humane Society.

The Humane Society is not a no-kill shelter and Luke said it is more than likely the new place to take Sumpter dogs will be a euthanasia type of situation. Last year Sumpter took only 10 dogs to the Humane Society and the cost had been \$50 each. This year the price was raised to \$100 each. Luke said he didn't think a month and a half was enough of a heads up, but he'll be working on it and report back to the board. Some Christmas present.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

The first real snowfall of the season came last week end and it isn't even winter yet. Winter officially arrives Dec. 21. The tricommunity got from eight to ten inches of snow last week end and on Monday the schools were closed and so were the Sumpter and Van Buren Township offices. Belleville City Hall was open and the mail

Some people think the Winter Fest ice sculptures that melted before the storm hit could survive better if the Winter Fest actually was held in winter instead of fall.

One merchant told me the ice sculptures this year weren't really sculptures, formed by the work of an ice sculptor as in the past, but were water frozen in forms with the writing added by laser. When I looked more closely at the ice "sculptures" many were the same rectangular size and some, from separate parts of town, were the same

I was told that the ice "sculpture" in front of Chase bank fell over before the parade started on Dec. 3 and made a loud boom that startled parade watchers. Sounded like an explosion, I am told.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak reported to the school board at Monday's regular meeting how he is continually wowed by the number of quality events in Belleville. He said he thought there were 500 people in the Jingle Bell Run on Dec. 3 to raise funds for the Education Foundation. Board member Kelly Owen said there were 500 signed up and about 400 ran.

Then, he told how impressive the parade was and the floats were incredible and he saw Santa arriving by helicopter. He said he heard there were 7,000 people there and he

He said he wore an orange and black Belleville High School hoody to show off the district as he rode in the parade as Grand Marshal and appeared with Santa on the stage at the parade.

But, it was very cold, and Supt. Kudlak said he should have worn more layers. He was freezing!

Former Belleville City Councilwoman Kay Atkins asked me to help her commend the two city DPW workers who worked to clean five miles of streets in the city after the big snowstorm over the week end. She remembers when there were a lot more workers to help with all the work to keep the city going. She's amazed that they can do everything now with just two!

According to WWJ radio, Alicia Harris of Belleville is having her house sold if she doesn't come up with the money owed her credit union by this week. She suffers from multiple sclerosis and is on medical leave from work and can't come up with the

She said her ex-husband only intermittently pays child support and one of her children suffers from inoperable kidney disease. Her other two sons are in college and they won't have a home to come home to this Christmas.

Someone put up a Gofundme account on her behalf and the page reads, in part, "Aren't the holidays a time to help, give

back, pay it forward? Everyone has a story. Everyone has a challenge. Everyone has a journey..."

I've been informed that Fox 2 News has become interested in the story of marijuana

grower Nelson Po and Sumpter Township which let him grow his medical marijuana and then didn't, taking his vehicles and money and everything they could think of. Stay tuned.

Belleville's DPW chief Rick Rutherford told the story, at a recent public meeting, of how a person wanted to put a train car restaurant up on the parcel at 337 Main Street where the cleaners burned down vears ago.

He said the person asked Rick about what he would have to do to get permission to do that and Rick told him. The cost to get the sealed drawings and all the steps necessary to get approval made the man step back and scrap the idea.

This is the spot where Davenport Brothers is seeking permission to build a building for three units - two offices and a retail space. The city is working its way through the steps to make that possible, since the rules say it has to be two-stories tall and they want to build one story. The rules are being changed to make one story OK.

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Letters

'Ladies Night Out' was wonderful event

To the Editor:

I am writing to tell you of the wonderful evening I had with a co-worker during the "Ladies Night Out" on Thursday, Dec. 8.

We started the evening with a delicious meal at Kabob Garden and began our shopping a few doors down at Crafted: Modern Handmade. So many unique and beautiful things. Treats from Sweet Cream Bakery, too!

Next stop: Garden Fantasy. Beautifully decorated, warm and cozy, too! They offered wine tasting and chocolate-covered strawberries. I never wanted to leave! However, the shuttle driver came in to announce that the bus was leaving, so on to Belle's we went.

I had not been in Belle's since it was the pop-up store in the summer and I was amazed at all of the items they carry. Art work that you would find at an upscale art fair, done by local artists and very reasonably priced. The Cherry Jubilee coffee provided by Sugar Plum Candy Shoppe was divine. I can't wait to go back and spend more time in each of the rooms.

We ended our evening at Edrice Luv Collection Clothing Boutique. Another store I had not been in before. The people were so welcoming and helpful. The homemade candy was especially good. Along with beautiful clothing, they were offering free chair massages by Jayson Atkins. Wonderful! I will definitely be seeing him again.

We ran out of time and were not able to visit all the places taking part in this event. I visited stores that I might not have ventured to on my own and have since gone back to some to purchase some Christmas gifts.

I appreciated this opportunity and how hard everyone involved worked to make it a success.

Kelly Boelter Sumpter Township

Sumpter Collision is great shop, great team

To the Editor:

I just have one word for the experience I received from Sumpter Collision: WOW! Not only are they a preferred insurance shop (meaning I didn't have to wait for an adjuster), they kept me informed during the entire process and my car was returned to me cleaner than when I picked it up new at the dealership.

Great job, great team, great shop.

Jeff Kotlarek Romulus

Phil Hart political billboard up 135 days

There's a political billboard on the South I-94 Service Drive (yes Drive, not Road like the road signs indicate, according to the postal service and the state it's Drive) for Phillip Hart.

I know we have a time period that political signs have to be removed after an election, but this billboard was for the Aug. 2, 2016 Primary Election. As of this Thursday, Dec. 15, 2016, that's 135 days (over 19 weeks)! He didn't even win.

If I tried doing that with a Trump sign, the township would have made me take it down two days after an election. If I didn't, I would be fined and billed for the

James Otzman VBT resident

Thank you for the opportunity to serve

To the Editor:

Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of such a great School District the past five years. I was humbled with the amount of support and encouragement during my tenure on the Van Buren Public School

Our entire community should be proud of the dedicated staff at each of our schools. Van Buren Public Schools could not maneuver the difficult and ever-changing environment of public schools in Michigan without these committed employees.

I would also like to thank my colleagues on the School Board. Serving as a Trustee is often difficult and challenging. Your commitment to success of our students has always been something we all can be proud

I look forward to continuing to hear the accomplishments throughout the schools and wish only the best for our School District in the future.

Thank you again, Brent Mikulski Canton Township

Pleasing You, Pleases Us

Santa's Mailbox

Santa's Mailbox is outside next to the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce for the children to send their letters to the Jolly Old Elf. The Chamber is located at 248 Main Street, Belleville.

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Belleville Area Independent

Birthdays

Dec. 19 – Cheryl Toms

Dec. 20 - Jenny Hawkins-Knox, Rylie

Dec. 21 – Craig Moody

Dec. 22 - Candace Myshock

Dec. 23 - Shelly Papineau

Dec. 24 – Susan Richardson

Dec. 25 - Constance Genevieve Riggs

Dec. 29 - Vicki White

Dec. 30 - Marc Littleson, Pam Mendis

Dec. 31 – Josee Lee



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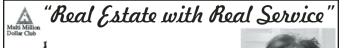
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Obituaries



A. Earl Hogan

(August 31, 1924 – December 6, 2016)

A. Earl Hogan, age 92, of Willis, MI, passed away Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at Arbor Hospice-The Residence, Ann Arbor, MI. Earl was born on August 31, 1924, in Livonia, MI, son of Charles Cleveland & Mary Lee (Boston) Hogan. He was 1 of 10 children. Earl had five brothers Cecil, Luther, Bill, and twins Melvin and Alvin. He also had four sisters Hazel, Edwina, Nieta and Ruth.

Earl was a farmer and an avid collector and restorer of vintage tractors. He retired from the Ford Motor Company's Rawsonville Road plant after 37 years of loyal service. Always a devoted family man, he loved animals, nature, good food, good friends, and long road trips.

Earl is survived by his loving wife of 69 years, Ann K. (Krakowiak) Hogan of Willis, MI; daughter Kathleen (David) Mayo of Bloomfield Hills, MI; son Alan (Peggy) Hogan of Ypsilanti, MI; granddaughter MacKenzie Mayo of Bloomfield Hills, MI; grandsons Cameron Mayo of Bloomfield Hills, MI, and Lex Hogan of Utah; great-granddaughter Abbie Hogan of Utah; brother Melvin (Bonnie) Hogan; three sisters Edwina Schwall, Nieta Naebeck and Ruth; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, extended family, neighbors, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and five siblings Hazel, Cecil, Luther, William and Alvin.

Visitation was 5-7 p.m. Thursday and 2-7 p.m. Friday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. A funeral service and Mass was held Saturday, December 10, 2016 at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 9425 Whittaker Road, Ypsilanti, MI. Visitation was held 10-11 a.m. at the church. Interment followed in Union-Udell Cemetery on Textile Road in Ypsilanti. A funeral luncheon was served at St. Joseph Catholic Church following the interment.

Memorial contributions made to the Arbor Day Foundation are greatly appreciated.

Please sign Earl's on-line guest book and share a story for his family to treasure at www. davidcbrownfh.com.



WILLIAM LEVOY SHAFER

(April 23, 1938 - December 11, 2016)

Age 78, a longtime Van Buren Township resident. Survived by wife of 50 years Mary Ann; four children; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren. Cremation has been accorded. David C. Brown Funeral Home.

> More **Obituaries on** page 8



Shirley Mae Reed

(June 5, 1931 – December 5, 2016)

Shirley Mae Reed, age 85, a longtime resident of Belleville.

Shirley is the beloved wife of the late Robert and caring mother of Cheryl Lynn (Scot) Clancy of Belleville. Shirley is also the loving and proud grandmother of Jennifer Lynn Clancy of Belleville and loving grandmother and great-grandmother to Moria and Roxie. Shirley is survived by her sister, Yvonne Jensen of Frankenmuth, MI.

Born on June 5, 1931 and graduated from Petoskey High School, Shirley had deep faith and was a very active member of the First United Methodist Church of Belleville and was also a former member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Shirley also enjoyed cooking, spending time with her family, especially her granddaughter

She will be greatly missed by her family and

A memorial service honoring Shirley's life will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, December 17, at the First United Methodist Church of Belleville. 417 Charles St., Belleville.

Shirley's family will receive guests from 10 a.m. until the time of the memorial service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may

be directed to the American Heart Association.



Janet C. Ochs

JANET C. OCHS

(July 23, 1938 - November 23, 2016)

Janet C. Ochs, age 78, of Prescott, MI, formerly of Belleville, MI, passed away Wednesday, November 23, 2016. She was born on July 23, 1938 in Dundee, MI to the late Harold and Marie Brockman. She was a retired line worker at Wellington Industries in Belleville, MI. Janet was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She enjoyed playing Bunco and

She is survived by her loving husband Rodger Ochs; her children Carol (Walt) Sweeney of Gatesville, Texas, and Rodney Ochs of Ida, Michigan; grandchildren Jennifer (Wallace) Rost, Ashley Tasker, Cody Ochs, and Trever Ochs; great grandchildren Connor Sweeney and Kaitlynn Rost; siblings Beverly Bresser and Hal (Judy) Brockman; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her son Terry A. Peabody and great-granddaughter Kathrynn Rost.

Inurnment will take place at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan, on December 16. 2016 at 12:30 p.m. Condolences may be made to the family at www.bureshfuneralhomes.com

Obituaries



Marion "Granny" Szajnuk

<u>MARION 'GRANNY' SZAJNUK</u>

(October 16, 1940 – December 11, 2016) Marion "Granny" Szajnuk, age 76, a resident of Chapel Hill, TN, passed away Sunday, December 11, 2016 at her residence.

Funeral services will be held at a later date. Heritage Funeral Home is assisting the family with their arrangements.

Granny was born on October 16, 1940 in McKeesport, PA, daughter of the late Leon Szajnuk and Verna Zeekey Szajnuk. She worked in the general services of the home health care industry. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who liked to do cross stitching. She was of the Catholic faith.

Granny is survived by her children: David (Annett) May of Taylor, MI, Alfred (Gail) May of Ypsilanti, MI, Patricia Scission of Holiday, FL, Doreen Mader of Lewisburg and Yvonne Shott of Chapel Hill; grandchildren: Stacey Crane, Craig Crane, Anthony Bird, Michael Scission, Dominic Scission, Drake James, Ashlie Shott, Nicholas Shott, Cali Rakotz, Kara Rakotz, Christopher Crawford, John Crawford, Shana Crawford, Mark Mader, Samantha May, Michael May and Kelly Cain Cross; 14 greatgrandchildren; and sister Veronica Nahory of West Virginia.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her daughters: Dianna Rakotz and Deborah James, grandson Roman Ewing, and brother Donald Szajnuk.

You may share condolences with the family at the Heritage Funeral Home website www. TnFunerals.com .



Frank Ivan

(July 9, 1923 – December 12, 2016)

Frank Ivan, age 93, a longtime City of Belleville resident, died early Monday morning on December 12, 2016.

Frank is the loving husband of Marcella for 68 wonderful years; dear father of Pat (Gary) Smith of Belleville, Kaye (Ed) Connolly of Florida, Faye (Mark) Wilkinson of Belleville, Gregory (Valarie) Ivan of Belleville, and Richard (Brenda) Ivan of Belleville. Frank is also survived by 15 grandchildren, 24 greatgrandchildren and siblings Jerry (Mildred) Ivan of Clinton, and Helen (the late Jerry) Korican of Clio, and many loving extended family and

Mr. Ivan was born on July 9, 1923 in Hamler, Ohio. He was a 30-plus year employee of Fisher Body and active parishioner of St. Stephen's Church of New Boston. Frank was a loyal Detroit Tigers fan, enjoyed time at the lake house in Irish Hills, and time with his family. A funeral mass will be celebrated at 11:00 AM Thursday, December 15 at St. Stephen's Parish, 18800 S. Huron River Dr., New Boston. Mr. Ivan will lie in state at 10:00 AM at the church. A procession to Hillside Cemetery, Belleville with interment prayers will follow the mass.

Visiting hours were arranged for Wednesday from 4 until 8 PM at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, (734) 697-4500. The rosary was prayed at 7:30 PM, Wednesday.

In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be directed to St. Stephen's Parish.

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U.S. Census Bureau lists household incomes, percentage of poverty in tri-community area

A new report from the U.S. Census Bureau reports on median household incomes and percentage of people in poverty for populations under 65,000 in the Metro-Detroit area.

In the tri-community, the averages, from 2011 to 2015, were reported as:

· Belleville, median household income of

\$45,452, with 16.3% in poverty;

- · Sumpter Township, median income of \$53,155, with 22% in poverty; and
- · Van Buren Township, median income of \$55,309, with 11.3% in poverty.

In 2015 the federal poverty level is an individual annual income of less than \$12,082.

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ATTENTION BELLEVILLE **EAGLE MEMBERS**

There will be a special meeting December 21, 2016 immediately following the regular Aerie meeting which begins at 7:00 p.m. The purpose is to discuss and vote on a proposal to reverse the lifetime ban of 30+ year member of the Eagles Donna Corbit. No other business will be discussed at this meeting. All Aerie #3996 members may attend.



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Members of the newly formed auxiliary for Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9568 in Romulus are, from left in front, Becky Brendtke, Debbie Allen, Roxanne Deverich, and Dianne Lemanski. Second row from left, are Carol Sam, Debbie Zielinski, President Sandi Merrow, Sr. Vice Barb Kaiser Miller, and Lisa Koski. In back from left, are Jody Toner Williams, Virginia Silvey, Linda Alexander, Jr. Vice Toby Grudzinskas and, at rear right, Chaplain Jamison Parker.

New auxiliary formed at Veterans of Foreign Wars #9568 in Romulus

Last July a new auxiliary was formed at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9568 at 39270 Huron River Drive in Romulus, just east of Hannan Road.

They meet the first Tuesday of each month and people interested may call the VFW Post at (734) 941-3030 for more information.

The auxiliary is open to men who had a dad or uncle or brother in the service and don't qualify for VFW membership for those who served overseas.

Roxanne Deverich of Van Buren Township said the group is just getting started with its projects, but already has adopted a family to help members get back on their feet and is holding dinners.

One of the biggest projects is the 18 lap robes that Deverich has made. They will be taking them to the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor for veterans to use. The auxiliary gets credit for such donations and so this

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will help the new group.

Deverich said her sister-in-law Kerry Vaughn of Romulus, made about 20 lap robes that she donated to Paralyzed Veterans. Vaughn's friend, Evelyn Koueber of Romulus, made a large number of crocheted lap robes for Paralyzed Veterans. Neither belongs to the auxiliary.

Deverich said her husband George and his sister Kerry had a brother, Mike Deverich, who was in the Navy and died in 1973 on the Kitty Hawk in an accident. She said Kerry puts a note in each of her lap robes for veterans telling about her brother and donating the robe in his memory.

Deverich said she was inspired by them to make lap robes, too, so last year and this year she made lap robes for the VA Hospital.

Deverich said Post 9568 had an auxiliary in the past, but hasn't had one for several years.

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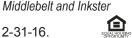
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Lyliss Daly Frederick is a long-time Belleville resident who is turning 101 years old today. She was born in Henry Ford Hospital Dec. 15, 1915. She grew up on a farm in Dearborn and attended Sacred Heart Catholic School. She met Russell Frederick just prior to World War II and they married. They had a son Russell "Rusty" Frederick, born in 1956, and a daughter Ann Ruth Frederick, born in 1959. Both predeceased their mother. Lyliss was a stay-at-home mother while her husband was a president loan officer. They enjoyed trips to England. Lyliss is an avid bridge player. She loves getting her hair done every Wednesday when she is able to do so. Lyliss is a loving grandmother to Dakota (Sarah) Herzberg and great-grandmother to Robbie, Kristalynn, and Jayce Herzberg.

Tickets on sale for Mayors' Ball to benefit Boys & Girls Clubs

The fourth-annual Mayors' Ball is planned for 5 to 11 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Belleville Yacht Club.

The event, hosted by Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley and Romulus Mayor LeRoy D. Burcroff, will include dancing, food, refreshments, and silent and live auctions.

The ball is an annual benefit for the Romulus and Belleville Boys and Girls clubs. Cocktails will be served beginning at 5 p.m. and the dinner and auctions are scheduled to begin at 6 p.m.

Tickets for the event are \$100 per person and must be purchased in advance. The donation includes dinner, an open bar, and entertainment

For tickets, call Rob McLachlan at (734) 578-5682 or email him at rwmclachlan@gmail.com.

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Sumpter & Po

(continued from page 1)

defense available when a government official has actively misled a defendant into a reasonable belief that his or her charged conduct is legal. United States v. Neville, 82 F.3d 750, 761 (7th Cir. 1996).

Ruark said on Aug. 16 police allegedly seized over 200 marijuana plants.

"When STPD could not persuade Mr. Po to enter into another transaction similar to the Deferred Prosecution Agreement, STPD initiated criminal charges against Mr. Po," Ruark wrote in his motion to dismiss.

"STPD engaged in an illegal drug transaction with Mr. Po on Nov. 3, 2015," the motion says. "In addition, STPD did not require Mr. Po to abide by the regulations set forth in the Ordinance while operating his medical marijuana business. Based on the unclear language of the Act in this constantly changing area of law and the criminal conduct of STPD, the Court should dismiss the charges against Mr. Po based on entrapment," he wrote.

Ruark wrote that Po was allowed to continue growing at his Harris Road home after April 15 when Sumpter agreed to forego the suspended license with the understanding Po diligently move his marijuana grow to 50990 Willis.

Po had purchased the 36-acre parcel on Willis Road, had submitted a site plan to the Sumpter Township planning commission, and had already cleared the land.

Po was in the process of developing the Willis Road property for the medical marijuana grow when Sumpter Police raided

his Harris Road home on Aug. 16.

Ruark said that since Sumpter police engaged Po in an illegal drug transaction on Nov. 3, 2015, which Po took as a guarantee that his conduct was lawful on Aug. 16, 2016, "STPD engaged in impermissible conduct that would induce an otherwise lawabiding person to commit a crime in similar circumstances."

Ruark said police induced an incriminating statement from Po while he was in custody and before advising him of his Miranda rights. The search warrant was based on an incriminating statement obtained in violation of Miranda, Ruark said.

On Friday, Po is scheduled to be at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice for the final conference and motions on a criminal charge against him of growing too much marijuana. Another attorney from Ruark's office will represent him. Attorney Ruark will be at civil court downtown representing Po.

A jury trial on the criminal charge is scheduled for Jan. 26 before Judge Ulysses W. Boykin and expected to last one and a half to two days. The prosecutor is expected to have three or four witnesses and the defense four to five witnesses.

At a session in circuit court on Dec. 6, Judge Robert J. Colombo, Jr. ordered a partial release of Po assets seized by Sumpter Township. The black 2015 Chevrolet Silverado was to be released to Po. "All storage fees and costs are waived if the vehicle is stored with Sumpter Township," Judge Colombo ordered.

Also, Clarita Po's saving's account, with a value of \$50,674.69 as of Sept. 28, was ordered to be unfrozen by Fifth Third Bank and released to Mrs. Po.



Page 12 Belleville Area Independent/December 15, 2016

Minding **Your Business** with Bob Mytych



The Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue of Sumpter Township will be holding their monthly pet-adoption event this Saturday, Dec. 17, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Petco Pet Store on Warren Avenue across from the Westland Mall. Call (734) 461-9458.

Perspective Eyecare on Belleville Road is offering buy one complete pair of glasses and get 50% off another complete pair. Some restrictions apply.

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Franklin Homes invites you to celebrate the holidays in a new home with first month rent and security deposit waived, a \$1,000

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For details visit their website at www. franklinhomesales.com or call (734) 699-7700. Restrictions apply and offers end Dec. 31.

Free photos with Santa will be at the Belleville Area Museum on Dec. 17, from noon to 4 p.m. presented by the Belleville Central Business Community. On Monday, Dec. 19, Santa will be at Leo's Coney Island from 5 to 8 p.m. then on Friday, Dec. 23, also from 5 to 8 p.m.

This week, the City of Belleville and the Independent are sponsoring the 2016 Holiday Decorating Contest, and I'll be making my rounds to the winning homes and business starting tomorrow evening to take photographs. Judging started yesterday and wraps up tonight, from 6 to 10 p.m. The winners receive a letter from the city and will get a plaque with their photograph

at next Monday's City Council meeting. There are five categories: Victoria Commons, Harbour Pointe, the two mobile home parks, balance of the city, and businesses. You don't have to sign up to enter. Simply have your lights on tonight.

The Bake Shoppe on Savage at Bemis is taking orders until Wednesday, Dec. 21, for holiday bread, cakes, pies, and cookies. The shop will be closing at 2 p.m. on Dec. 24 and will re-open on Jan. 15. To place an order call (734) 699-2236.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych, (734) 699-9020, with your suggestion. There is no cost to be in this column.



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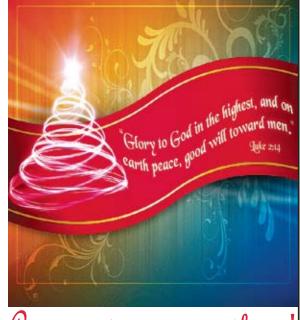
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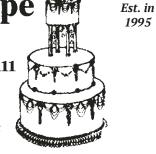
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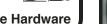
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Here are the winners from Winter Fest week end in Belleville

Paul Henning, executive director of the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce, announced the winner of the car raffle was Joshua Palmer from Ypsilanti.

Palmer's name was drawn during festivities at Winter Fest on Dec. 3. Henning announced the following contest

Winter Fest Parade trophy winners

- Best Business P & P Dance Centre
- Best School BHS Productions
- Best Community Organization -Belleville Area District Library
- Grand Marshal Award Willow Run Tribute Rosie Drill Team
- Best Municipality Sumpter
- Best Non-Profit BYC

Decorating Contest Winners:

- 1st Belle's Resale
- 2nd Garden Fantasy on Main
- 3rd Friends Fine Flooring

Soup Crawl Winners:

- 1st Egan's Pub Pizza Bisque
- 2nd Applebee's Chicken Tortilla
- 3rd JT's Pub & Grub Clam

Michigan Arts Council awards \$70,000 in grants to Yankee Air Museum

The Yankee Air Museum at Willow Run Airport was given a \$50,000 Capital Improvements grant by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

The museum also was awarded \$20,000 for Operational Support. A total of \$9,644,493 was given to 555 groups in the state of Michigan for the 2017 fiscal year. The Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs is made up of up to 15 members appointed by the Governor and is within the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.



Superintendent's Corner

By Pete Kudlak Superintendent, Van Buren Public Schools

Ever since public schools became commonplace, they have worked to meet the needs of the communities in which they serve. As times have changed, so have schools.

The premise in which public education functions is to level society's economic and social playing fields and provide an educated citizenry to better our democracy. I am not sure how well that public education has done these things over the years and I am bothered by the fact that we tend to recreate society's issues.

However, while educating the students in our classrooms is our main function, student safety is paramount. We all live in the unfortunate reality of public shootings. Schools have not been made exempt of

Since last school year, Van Buren Public Schools has been updating our processes to respond to an active shooter. While this is not a topic that we enjoy talking about, it is imperative that we are prepared for a widevariety of situations.

We have been working with all local law enforcement agencies to implement a program called A.L.I.C.E. (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate). This process provides action steps for staff to take in order to stay safe in the event of an active shooter or active threat on school grounds.

The main objective of this program is to provide options to stay safe during an active threat emergency. The A.L.I.C.E. initiative is recognized across the country as an additional component to the traditional "lockdown" response.

For years, schools have done fire and tornado drills. More recently, we have added lockdown drills. We are working to add A.L.I.C.E. drills to our routine. Students are just to listen to their teacher for instructions (which will vary depending on information provided in the drill) in order to complete the drill effectively.

While it is unfortunate to have this as a reality, understand that student safety is imperative to every staff member and we will continue to improve our practices that keep students safe through training, drills, and honest discussions.





John, left, and Joshua Lothringer

Lothringer twins gone to college, Mom tries to get used to empty nest

"Now, if I could just figure out how to cook for two instead of a teenage-boy mini-army, all will be good," said Lisa Lothringer, assistant executive director of the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority.

She said her 19-year-old twin sons have gone off to college and she is trying to get used to her empty nest.

Joshua and John attended the Monroe County Middle College, which is a hybrid high school and college partnership between the Monroe County Intermediate School District and Monroe County Community College.

This five-year high school allows the students to attend both high school and college classes on the MCCC campus instead of a traditional high school setting. A "capstone" project and 100 hours of volunteer hours within the community are also requirements of the program.

Both boys graduated with a 4.0 in their high school classes and both graduated *Summa Cum Laude* (Joshua 4.0 – John 3.987) from MCCC. They both spoke at the college commencement ceremony where they received their Associate Degrees.

Joshua now is at University of Michigan Dearborn Honors College studying premed and public health administration. He opted to for the Dearborn campus because of smaller class sizes and opportunities for research. He plans to be an Otolaryngologist (ear, nose and throat doctor). He received the Metropolitan Scholarship and the Downriver Alumni scholarship both towards his tuition.

John is at Eastern Michigan University – Honors College studying Marketing and Business. He competed for, and received, one of the 20 Presidential Scholarships awarded for 2016. This provides him with four years of room, board, and tuition and he plans to obtain his Master's Degree within that time frame.

"Their Dad and I are very proud of the young men they have grown to be," Lothringer said. John A. Lothringer is her husband and their father. She said "little John" is John L. Lothringer.

"Besides all of their academic achievements, the boys have a deep love of all things automotive and have their own graphics design and vinyl cutting business – Midshift Media."

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– Yogi Berra

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Page 15

<u>Court Watching:</u>

Judge Parrott allows victim to speak after sentencing complete

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

The felony charge of assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) was pled down to a misdemeanor in a case where Khalil Hussein Hassan, 34, threw a glass mug at a man, cutting him on the cheek. The incident happened in the City of Romulus on May 20.

Hassan pled no contest to the lesser charge on Oct. 26, disposing of the case at district court. He had been out on \$20,000 personal recognizance bond.

On Dec. 7, the case that was over was brought back to life.

34th District Court Judge David Parrott was asked by the Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor, representing the People, to amend the already imposed sentence of a fine and 12 months probation after which time the charge would be wiped from his record.

Hassan's attorney Hassan Hamade asked Judge Parrott if he could approach the bench with the prosecutor for a sidebar discussion in private with the judge.

After the sidebar, a disgusted Judge Parrott explained that the People made a motion to amend the sentence. He said that an immediate sentence had been imposed pursuant to a full, completed plea agreement.

Now, Judge Parrott continued, the Prosecutor says that was an error because the victim did not have opportunity to address the court before sentencing.

"I am unaware of any authority allowing me to vacate the sentence," an irritated Judge Parrott said. "I will listen to the victim at this time."

The victim said he felt the sentence was too light, with 12 months probation and then wiped from his attacker's record.

"There will be a scar on my face for the rest of my life. It's afflicting my family," he said.

"He threw the glass cup in my face and it broke. Why should I have a scar on my face and he has nothing? He should have a permanent blemish on his record. He will do this again. He reached out to others to intimidate me to drop the charges. He injured somebody.

"I did not have anything to do with him. One of his friends and I had a minor disagreement and then he threw the cup. I think he probably will repeat the offense because he thinks that's the way the court works. I was not here to speak at the sentencing. I was out in the hall waiting," he concluded.

"The error lies with the People, not the court," Judge Parrott explained. "Unless the defendant wishes to withdraw the plea." Attorney Hamade said they did not wish to withdraw from the plea deal.

"The motion of the People is denied," Judge Parrott ordered and said to the victim, "You do have civil remedies."

"No, I don't want to do that," he replied, referring to a law suit.

"You might want to reconsider," Judge Parrott said.

Christina Louise Astolfi

Christine Louise Astolfi, 31, has two separate charges of first-degree retail fraud against her, both happening on Nov. 26 in Van Buren Township. She was free after posting two bonds of \$5,000/10% each.

Astolfi was represented by courtappointed attorney David Lankford who said his client wished to waive preliminary exams on both cases. Judge Parrott bound her over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on Dec. 21.

Court records show she also has a warrant out for her arrest for first-degree retail fraud on Dec. 2 in Livonia.

Janice Lillian Parker

Janice Lillian Parker, 40, waived her preliminary exam on a charge of larceny in a building on Aug. 15 in VBT. She was brought from the Wayne County Jail for

her court appearance.

Judge Parrott bound her over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on Dec. 14. He also referred her to pretrial services to look at her bond of \$2,000/10% which she had been unable to post. She is represented by court appointed attorney Kenneth Waldhorn and another attorney stood in for him at this court session.

Roderick Stephen Burbank

Roderick Stephen Burbank, 62, waived his preliminary exam on a charge of assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer and domestic violence on Oct. 31 in VBT. He is due at circuit court on Dec. 21 for an arraignment on the information.

He is free after posting bond of \$10,000/10%. His retained attorney is Arthur Weiss.

Jeffrey Lamont Ingram

Jeffrey Lamont Ingram, 58, waived his preliminary exam on a charge of failure to register as a sex offender in Sumpter Township on July 7.

He was bound over to circuit court for a Dec. 21 arraignment on the information. He is free on \$5,000 personal recognizance bond. His court appointed attorney is Dewayne Boyd.

William Calvin Hunt

William Calvin Hunt, 52, waived his preliminary exam on a charge of first-degree retail fraud on Jan. 3 in VBT. He is lodged in the Wayne County Jail with bond of \$5,000/10%. He is labeled a habitual offender.

Hunt is due at circuit court on Dec. 14. His retained attorney is Steven A. Menken.



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Office: (734) 461-6165 Cell: (734) 730-9733 Page 16 Belleville Area Independent/December 15, 2016

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Dec. 19 Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 20 Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 21 Belleville Downtown
- Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Environmental Commission
- Monday, Jan. 9 Organizational meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., at the Belleville High School Commons (cafeteria)
- Tuesday, Jan. 10 Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority, 2 p.m.

Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

- Thursday, Jan. 12 Sumpter Township Planning Commission at 7 p.m., quarterly
- Tuesday, Jan. 24 Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority (DDA)

meeting at 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30

- Thursday, Feb. 9 Sumpter Township Planning Commission meeting at 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 14 Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., regular meeting 6:30 p.m.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Frazier, Trustee Martin, Trustee Miller and Trustee White. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Executive Assistant Selman, Executive Assistant Clair. DDA Director Ireland, Public Services Director Taylor, Assessing Coordinator Stevenson, Planning and Economic Development Director Akers, Planning and Economic Development Deputy Director Best, Public Safety Director Laurain, Public Safety Deputy Director (Fire) Besson, Public Safety Deputy Director (Police) Wright and an audience of seven (7).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, Frazier seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Frazier moved, Miller seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Work Study Session minutes of November 14, 2016, Board Meeting minutes of November 15, 2016, Special Work Study Session minutes of November 28, 2016, Special Board Meeting minutes of November 29, 2016, Prepaid List of November 18, 2016, Prepaid List of December 1, 2016 and the Voucher List of December 6, 2016]. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None. CORRESPONDENCE: None. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Wright moved, Budd

Budd moved, Martin seconded to approve Resolution 2016-14 the 2016 amended General Fund Budget to include the following directives: A) Revenue in excess of those noted shall be dedicated to fund balance, B) Fiscal year line items, which are not expensed, shall revert to net income, C) approval of appendices noted (Salaried Employee Wage Schedule) as part of the General Fund Budget, D) Revenue as "Tax Administrative fee" is to continue as is past practice. The allocated millage for township operations is 4.9144, which represents .9144 for Safety, E) adoption by departmental total and F) approval of the December 6, 2016 Final General Fund Amended Budget supersedes any prior resolution. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Martin and White. Nays: Miller and Frazier. Motion Carried. Supervisor McNamara read a statement outlining the budget process, thanked Board members for their input and requested approval to "maintain stability in our Public Safety and other departments going forward". Board members opposing the 2016 amended budget expressed concern regarding

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

seconded to approve the Special Land Use request for the property located at 10573 Belleville Road so the applicant may construct and operate a drive-thru restaurant on the property. The subject 0.86-acre parcel zoned C-1 General Business is located on the east side of Belleville Road north of the existing Belle Tire. Board member expressed the desire for the applicant to provide a masonry wall adjacent to the north side of the property line. Motion

Township Operations and 4.0 mills for Public

overspending and wages.

Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve Resolution 2016-14 the 2017 proposed General Fund Budget and Resolution 2016-13 the Salaried Employees Wage Schedule eliminating the part time Executive Assistant and to include the following directives: A) Revenue in excess of those noted shall be dedicated to fund balance, B) Fiscal year line items, which are not expensed, shall revert to net income, C) approval of appendices noted (Salaried Employee Wage Schedule) as part of the General Fund Budget, D) Revenue as "Tax Administrative fee" is to continue as is past practice. The allocated millage for township operations is 4.9144, which represents .9144 for Township Operations and 4.0 mills for Public Safety, E) adoption by departmental total and F) approval of the December 6, 2016 Final General Fund Amended Budget supersedes any prior resolution. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara. Budd, Wright and Martin, Nays: Frazier, Miller and White. Motion Carried. Board members opposing the 2017 proposed General Fund Budget expressed concern regarding deficit spending, wages, utilizing landfill funds and savings to balance the budget.

Wright moved, Frazier seconded to approve Resolution 2016-19 the 2016 amended and 2017 Proposed Special Revenue Budgets [Community Development Block Grants. Downtown Development Authority, LDFA Fund, Landfill Fund, Belleville Area Museum. 9-1-1 Service Fund, Federal Forfeiture Fund

and State Forfeiture Fund] Motion Carried. Wright moved, White seconded to approve Resolution 2016-16 the 2017 Water and Sewer Rates and Fee Schedule. Motion Carried. The 3% increase is based on the increased cost of water purchased from Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) and equates to approximately \$4.87 per quarter per household.

Frazier moved, White seconded to approve the 2016 amended and 2017 proposed Water & Sewer Budget. Motion Carried.

Budd moved, Miller seconded to approve the revisions to the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) bylaws. Motion Carried. Revisions include added language regarding membership consistent with the LDFA Public Act, when officers formally take office, removed provisions from Public Comment rules and added Teleconferencing rules.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Treasurer announced the winter tax bills have been sent out. During the Township Administrative office shutdown beginning December 23rd through the end of the year payments may be made via the drop box located in front of the main entrance and thru the drop box located in the Public Safety Department. All payments received by December 31st will be receipted in 2016.

NON-AGENDA: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Budd moved, Miller seconded to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. Motion

Leon Wright, Township Clerk Kevin McNamara, Supervisor Publish: December 15, 2016



Sumpter Township's 2017 Recreation Master Plan

Sumpter Township is seeking public input regarding the Township's 2017 Recreation Master Plan. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires a minimum 30-day public review process as part of the master planning process. The plan will be available for review through January 24, 2017. A formal public hearing regarding the plan will be held at the Township Board of Trustees meeting on January 24, 2017, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The draft master plan is available for review at the following locations:

- Sumpter Township Offices, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville
- Sumpter Community Center, 23501 Sumpter Road, Belleville
- Belleville Public Library, 167 4th Street, Belleville

The draft plan is also available online on the Township's website at www.sumptertwp.com .

Please address questions and comments to Chris Nordstrom at cnordstrom@cwaplan.com or by phone at (734) 662-2200.

City of Belleville Public Notice

Publish: December 15, 2016

City of Belleville **Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**

November 21, 2016 A regular meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street by Mayor Conley. 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Fielder Present Council Member Smith Present Mayor Pro Tem Loria 3. SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Mr. Jesse Marcotte was sworn in by Judge Green as a City Council member.

4. PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS Presentations Council Member presented plaques to the following

Scarecrow Content winners:

- Kent Jones (families/individuals)
- · Rawsonville Elementary School (youth/ organizations)
- Bone Heads BBQ (businesses)
- BACA (adult groups)

Citizen Comments

5. AGENDA APPROVAL Motion by Fielder, Second by Smith to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Smith, Second by Fielder to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of November 7, 2016 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion by Fielder, Second by Smith to approve the Special City Council called meeting minutes of November 15, 2016 as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES Special Events Ordinance

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

6 to 10 pm December 14-15. Winners will be notified on December 16th, and presentations will be made at the December 19th City Council meeting

ACCOUNTS **PAYABLE** DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES Motion by Fielder, Second by Smith to approve

A draft of the Special Events Ordinance was presented

and discussed. A form for scheduling events is being

Appointments to Boards and

developed and will be discussed at a future meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Loria recommended that Kelly

Bates be appointed to fill a vacancy in the Planning

Motion by Smith, Second by Fielder to adopt

Resolution 16-116 appointing Ms. Kelly Bates to

Motion by Fielder, Second by Smith to approve

Resolution No. 16-117 to renew the WCA Assessing

Motion by Marcotte, Second by Smith to approve

Resolution No. 16-118 detailing the 2017 City

Mayor Pro Tem Loria stated that Mayor Conley will

assign an area of the City to each council member who

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

serve on the Planning Commission.

B. Assessment Services Contract

with a 2-year renewal option.

D. Holiday Decorating Contest

Council meeting dates.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. 2017 City Council Meeting Dates

Mayor's

Commission.

Resolution No. 16-119 to approve accounts payable and payables over \$500.00 for a total of \$132,300.94. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Marcotte, Second by Smith to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Scharf, City Clerk

Publish: December 15, 2016

will serve as judges. Awards will be presented for the best display in the following areas: Victoria Commons, Harbour Pointe, businesses, Belleville's mobile home parks, and the balance of the City. Contest runs from

Page 17

VBT Board

(continued from page 1)

He said the budget is \$4.875 million over revenue and includes transfers to balance the budget of \$4.257 million from the landfill fund and \$617,970 from the fund balance.

"I have an issue that we use every penny of the landfill fund and have to use the fund balance to balance this budget," Trustee White said.

He said his Social Security increased .03% this year and he got .001 percent interest on his bank savings, but was able to survive.

"There's \$4 million too much in this budget," White said.

He praise Supervisor McNamara for doing an outstanding job of presenting the budget prepared by the previous board.

"I will be voting no on this," White said. "Although I promised the supervisor I would vote yes, there are some things I expected to happen that haven't happened. I support this budget less than 50%, so I must vote no."

"I respect your no's," Supervisor McNamara said to the dissenters. "There's just a couple thousand dollars between my ideas and your ideas."

"It's the process of raises and dollars amounts attached to them," said Trustee Miller. "This

was done wrong..."

Trustee Frazier said she objected to this process of doing this budget.

"It's \$4.8 million over and having to dip into the fund equity," Frazier said. "In 2008-2012 the whole economy collapsed," referring to how everyone suffered and didn't get raises. "... I don't know how we can dip into fund equity."

After the board voted 4-3 to pass the budget, Frazier said, "I'm disappointed our fellow board member passed this."

"No more discussion after the vote," said Supervisor McNamara. "That when we lick our wounds and go off to our corners."

In beginning the budget discussion, Supervisor McNamara said budgets are living documents which may require amendment in the future for the good of the community.

He said they foresee a \$200,000 drop in revenue next year and providing health care increases costs \$270,000.

He said the general fund budget expenditures are \$15.5 million and the revenues are \$10.6 million, which requires all of the 2017 landfill fund revenue plus some money from the general fund fund balance.

The amended 2016 general fund budget passed on a 5-2 vote, with Trustees Miller and Frazier voting no.

Trustee Miller said she would be voting no

because the township is overspending and she's not happy with the way raises are given out to some and not to others.

Trustee White said the township is dipping into its savings and if they continue they will have none left.

"The residents of VBT would be hard-pressed to meet a budget like this without the landfill," White said.

White said Supervisor McNamara promised him he would work hard to bring the budget into line and he would like to see a hiring freeze.

"I would like to hear from everyone at the table," said Trustee Frazier. "Passing a budget like this ... with pensions and Visteon ... We are in troubled waters. We don't know what will happen after Jan. 20. I would warn us from moving forward with deficit spending. I can't understand the salaries. A \$3,500 raise in one year ... I would like answers... How did they decide on 3% for all the salaried workers when teachers got 1.5% and police got 2.5%. Somebody thought 3% was good. We should have 15% in our fund equity. The landfill could go down tomorrow – a disaster of some kind – and we would have a shortfall in our budget."

Frazier said she is concerned because they have more going out than coming in.

Supervisor McNamara said they had four mills and made a conscious effort to get more public safety millage. He said they did not want to let it dip for a year until the millage kicked in.

"This is not about public safety," Frazier replied. "I worked for the public safety millage."

Frazier said, "People said I haven't had a raise and three quarters of Americans haven't had a raise. It's not the public safety. We are paying people for doing a good job. We should base it on what's coming in. This is not in the taxpayers best interest. I'd like to hear from Ms. Budd and

Mr. Wright... I'd like to know how they came to support this budget."

"This is only the amended 2016 budget on the

table," Treasurer Budd pointed out, noting the next motion would be on the 2017 budget.

Frazier asked if there was a deficit in the 2016

Frazier asked if there was a deficit in the 2016 budget and White said the deficit in 2016 was \$3.7 million.

"Since 1975 we've had deficit," Supervisor McNamara said.

"We transferred form the landfill fud mainly to maintain public safety," Treasurer Budd said. "In 2018 the new public safety millage comes."

"We always use landfill tipping fees to balance the budget," Clerk Wright said. "We don't have revenues to replace it."

"This has nothing to do with public safety,"

Frazier replied. "The landfill money never should have been used to support public safety."

Frazier said Clerk Wright brought up the

question of having the landfill tipping fees in the revenue fund. She said she was told the landfill funds were to be kept separate for special projects.

"I don't consider balancing the budget as a 'special project," Frazier said. "We should have 15% in fund equity."

"As Jeff Jahr said, we've become addicted to landfill funds," Supervisor McNamara said, referring to a former board member.

In other business at the Dec. 6 meeting the board unanimously approved approval of the 2016 amended and 2017 proposed Special Revenue Budget for Community Development Block Grants, Downtown Development Authority, LDFA Fund, Landfill Fund, Belleville Area Museum, 911 Service Fund, Federal Forfeiture Fund and State Forfeiture Fund.

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2016 Dates:

January 17 February 21 March 20 April 17 May 15 June 12 July 10 August 21 September 18 October 16 November 20 December 18

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

On Wednesday December 21, 2016, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:00am, at **J&T Towing** and Storage, 287 Industrial Dr. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2001	Jeep	SW	1J4FF48S31L544329	16-22520
2002	Honda	4DR	1HGCG16582A079708	16-20904
1992	Oldsmobile	4DR	1G3WH54TXND315800	16-20910
1999	Jeep	SW	1J4GW58S8XC538870	16-24548
2003	Mitsubishi	SW	JA4MT21H83J601576	16-21264
2007	Chrysler	SW	2A4GP54L87R127357	16-7014
2002	Mercury	2DR	1ZWHT61L225613726	16-12658
1997	Ford	4D	1FALP52U8VG309015	16-23783

At 11:00am, the auction will move to **Great Lakes Towing** and storage, 42350 Van Born Rd. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

1999	Mercury	2DR	1ZWFT61L4X5665213	16-13875
1992	Lincoln	4DR	1LNLM81W9NY691164	16-1318
1999	Mitsubishi	4DR	6MMAP47P0XT008186	16-12373A
2003	Saturn	2DR	1G8AL52F63Z114380	16-22504
2002	Buick	4DR	3G5DB03E92S508277	16-22504
1998	Ford	PU	1FTYR14C2WPB51652	16-22504
2003	Mitsubishi	4DR	4A3AA46G53E105876	16-22445
2005	Chrysler	4DR	1C3EL56R55N682680	16-18926B

All vehicles are sold in "as is condition." Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Leon Wright, CMC

Van Buren Township Clerk Published: December 15, 2016 Page 18 Belleville Area Independent/December 15, 2016

2247 - disorderly conduct, Belleville BP

ramp/Belleville Rd.

Ecorse/Belleville

S. I-94 Service Dr.

Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.

Saturday, Dec. 10:

Belleville

0531 - mental, Denton

0918 - shots fired, Vernon St.

0334 - unauthorized driving away of auto, WB I-94

0635 - hit and run (from property damage accident),

1039 - malicious destruction of property, Sumpter

1431 - private property accident, Belleville Square

1815 - property damage accident, Belleville/Quirk

1857 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd. /

2328 - property damage accident, S. I-94 Service

1339 - malicious destruction of property, Maple

1430 - larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.

1635 - assist fire dept., I-94 WB/Belleville

1504 - suspicious situation, Hull Rd./Hoeft Rd.

1715 - property damage accident, WB I-94 /

2342 - malicious destruction of property, Village

Also on this week's log are 247 traffic stops, which

includes 44 on the I-94 and I-275 freeways and

bypasses, 78 in the city of Belleville, eight on the

Belleville Police

Dispatch Log

Denton Road curves, and eight at Lakewood.

0007 - warrant arrest. Main St.

1459 - larceny, Victorian Ln.

Monday, Dec. 5:

Tuesday, Dec. 6:

Wednesday, Dec. 7:

Thursday, Dec. 8:

0029 - suspicious person, Egan's

0013 - follow up, S. I-94 Service Dr.

0103 - parking complaint, Carmell St.

1754 - domestic assault, Carmell St.

1854 - warrant arrest, Carmell St.

0636 - found property, South St.

1238 - assist fire dept., Main St.

1322 - assist fire dept., Anaheim St.

1953 - family trouble Carmell St.

2145 - assist fire dept., Santa Clara St.

0245 - parking complaint, Carmell St.

0741 - vehicle lock out, Citgo

1842 - civil matter, Carmell St.

1855 - welfare check, Loza Ln.

1912 - civil matter, Carmell St.

1630 - suspicious person, Astor

2051 - fight, W. Columbia Ave.

0933 - traffic complaint, Main St.

1448 - warrant arrest, Washtenaw County

0235 - parking complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.

0755 - disorderly conduct, W. Columbia Ave.

0230 - property check, N. Aberdeen Ct.

0705 - animal complaint, Victorian Ln.

controlled substance act, W. Columbia Ave.

1504 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

1336 - warrant arrest, E. Service Dr.

1343 - larceny, W. Columbia Ave.

1807 - assist citizen, S. I-94 Service Dr./Quirk

1002 - violation of public health code/violation

1208 - E-911 hang up/investigation, Anaheim St.

1719 - assist fire dept., N. Edgemont Ave.

2040 - personal injury accident, W. Columbia Ave.

0938 - motorist assist, South St./W. Columbia Ave.

1019 - malicious destruction of property, South St.

1227 - harassment call, E. Huron River Dr.

1341 - family trouble, Kirkridge Park Dr.

1516 - sexual assault, E. Huron River Dr.

2035 - assault & battery, Morton Taylor Rd.

2126 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1056 - mental, McBride Ave.

1128 - suicide or attempt, Belmont Dr.

1132 - breaking & entering, Outer Dr.

1401 - larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.

2133 – dog at large, Pond Bluff Dr.

Van Buren Township **Police Dispatch Log**

Out of the 588 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, Dec. 4:

0021 - assault & battery, Village Green Ln. 0037 - disturbance, Laguna/Mission Pointe

0209 – disorderly conduct, Ormond Dr.

0259 - disturbance, Belleville

0328 - operating while intoxicated, Michigan Ave. Denton Rd.

0429 - malicious destruction of property, E. Walden

0459 - assault & battery, Maple Dr.

1106 - juvenile complaint, Denton Rd. 1706 - harassment call, Ouirk Rd.

1856 - warrant arrest, N. Liberty

2044 – agency assist, W. Columbia

2137 - larceny, Parkwood Dr.

Monday, Dec. 5: 0321 - property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / E.

Huron River Dr.

0859 - disturbance, Maple Dr.

1623 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1626 - motorist assist, EB I-94/Haggerty exit

1641 – civil matter, Greenbriar De.

1801 - suspicious person, Robson Rd. 1810 - assault & battery, Arthur St.

1917 - disorderly conduct, Belleville Rd.

1958 - fraud, Rawsonville Rd.

2108 - noise complaint, Westlake

Tuesday, Dec. 6:

0457 - vehicle repossession, Oak Blvd.

0748 - property damage accident, Michigan Ave. /

1207 - property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.

1556 - property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Hannan Rd.

1727 - larceny, Sumpter Rd.

1727 - property damage accident, Belleville/I-94

1745 - assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.

1907 - juvenile complaint, McBride Ave.

2222 - disturbance, Richard Run

Wednesday, Dec. 7:

0040 - malicious destruction of property, Tyler Rd. Quirk Rd.

0548 - larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr. 0622 - larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.

0725 - property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.

0731 - larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.

0745 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr. 0826 - larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.

 $1048-property\ damage\ accident,\ Belleville\ Rd.$

1225 - breaking & entering, Parkwood Dr.

1331 - fraud, Hardwood Dr.

1352 - suspicious person, Rolan Meadows Dr.

1430 - malicious destruction of property, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1442 - narcotics crime, Rawsonville Rd./Martz

1446 - intimidation threat, Washington

 $1459\ -\!-$ operating $\,$ while intoxicated, Tyler Rd. / Walden Blvd.

1649 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1703 - missing person, Sylvia Dr.

1710 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.

1757 - operating while intoxicated, VB Plaza

 $1844-assault\ \&\ battery,\ E.\ Archwood\ Dr.$

1908 - harassment call, Wildflower Ct.

Thursday, Dec. 8:

0123 - personal injury accident, Belleville/I-94

0307 - breaking & entering, Village Green Ln.

0449 - vehicle repossession, Ecorse Rd.

0621 - disturbance, Belleville Rdd.

1201 - fraud, Tyler Rd.

1242 - vehicle repossession, Leon Dr. 1248 - assault & battery, Westlake

1354 - malicious destruction of property, Southport

1437 - retail fraud, Walmart 1544 - personal injury accident, Village Center Dr.

1700 - assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.

2020 - fraud, Pick N Pay

2021 - property damage accident, Rawsonville /

2222 - disturbance, Pond Ridge Dr.

1815 – trespassing, Sugarbush 1923 - agency assist, Karr

1825 – suspicious situation, Third St.

1613 - larceny, Third St.

1951 – assist fire dept., Henry St.

2005 - private property accident, W. Columbia Ave

2243 - traffic hazard, San Carlos St.

Friday, Dec. 9:

0026 - E-911 cellular, Carmell St.

0245 - suspicious vehicle, Harbour Pointe Dr.

1214 - intrusion alarm, Owen

1349 - found property, Madelon

1431 - property damage accident, South St. / E. Columbia Ave.

1537 - property damage accident, Main St.

1616 – E-911 hang up, Fourth St.

1939 - assist fire dept., Carmell St.

2244 - noise complaint, Carmell St.

Saturday, Dec. 10:

0106 - parking complaint, Carmell St.

1131 – assist fire dept., Third St.

1425 - assist fire dept., Henry St.

1630 - property damage accident, Liberty/Huron River Dr.

1922 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.

2057 - suspicious situation, Santa Clara St.

2308 - parking complaint, Harbour Pointe Ct.

Also on this week's log are 37 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

0048 - noise complaint, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd. 1132 - alarm, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.

1138 - suspicious incident, Montana

1502 - animal complaint, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.

 $1706-juvenile\ complaint,\ Rustic\ Ln.$ 1809 – breaking & entering, Texas

1919 – 911 hang up, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.

1940 - fire dept. assist, Colorado 2008 - breaking & entering, Florida

2143 – breaking & entering, Washington

2209 - civil dispute, California 2223 - breaking & entering, Delaware

2320 - warrant arrest, out of township

Monday, Dec. 5: 0835 - suspicious incident, Arkona/Martinsville

1014 - dumping complaint, Elwell/Wear 1122 - malicious destruction of property, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.

1205 – civil dispute, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.

1419 - suspicious incident, Redwood

1509 - parking complaint, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd. 1828 - reckless driver, Willis/Sumpter

1843 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

2020 - fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.

Tuesday, Dec. 6:

0636 - suspicious vehicle, 41000 bl. Willow Rd.

1506 - parking complaint, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.

1511 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 1514 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1726 - warrant arrest, out of township

1801 - property damage accident, 51000 bl. Willis

1826 - fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Harris Rd.

2249 - civil dispute, Nevada

Wednesday, Dec. 7:

0452 - suspicious incident, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 0619 -- suspicious vehicle, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.

0624 - unauthorized driving away of vehicle, 48000

0712 - larceny, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.

1002 - well-being check, 46000 bl. Judd Rd. 1433 - suspicious incident, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.

2059 - fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 2200 - fire dept. assist, 29000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2353 - animal complaint, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Thursday, Dec. 8:

0951 - animal complaint, 25000 bl. Carleton West

1020 - larceny, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.

1045 - fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Harris Rd. 1128 - property damage accident, Sumpter/Willis

1219 - reckless driver, Sumpter/Bemis

1347 - civil dispute, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd. 1356 – alarm, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.

1752 - animal complaint, 10000 bl. Rawsonville

1913 - civil dispute, 20000 bl. Karr Rd. 2330 - animal complaint, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.

Friday, Dec. 9:

0627 - animal complaint, 11000 bl. Rawsonville

0927 - suspicious vehicle, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 1146 - suspicious vehicle, Arizona

1149 - animal complaint, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.

1208 - alarm, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1331 - alarm, 40000 bl. Wear Rd.

1353 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1458 – parking complaint, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.

1640 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

1718 - threats complaint, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

1731 - suspicious vehicle, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 1801 - assist other agency, Rawsonville/Willis

1946 - fraud complaint, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.

Saturday, Dec. 10:

1616 - fraud complaint, Rustic Ln.

2115 - fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

2146 - operating while intoxicated arrest, 19000 bl. Also on this week's log are 14 follow-up investigations.

36 miscellaneous details, 139 patrol checks, and 21

annual organizational meeting for 7 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 9, at the Belleville High School Commons. The board policy states the organizational meeting must be set no later than the third Monday in January. Because of the district holiday break, the district is not back in session on Jan. 2, the first Monday, and the board has traditionally held this meeting on the second Monday in January. The third Monday is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;

· Approved the Belleville High School trip for 20 current or past 10th and 11thgrade AP Government students to Washington, D.C. on June 4-9 with the Close-Up Foundation that offers an indepth experience in government. Travel is by airplane and motor coach. Cost to each student is \$1,730 and there will be fund raisers and family payments for the cost. Trustee Sherry Frazier endorsed the Close-Up Foundation and said when she worked for the Plymouth-Canton Schools they sent thousands of students to Washington with Close-Up. Frazier said she made a video of one of the trips to help with fund-raising because it is a costly trip. She urged local people to help support this trip;

· Approved hiring English teacher Adam Howard of Dearborn Heights for BHS as of Dec. 7 and science teacher Andrew Goins of Taylor for McBride Middle School as of Dec. 12. Both were present at the meeting to be personally welcomed by the board;

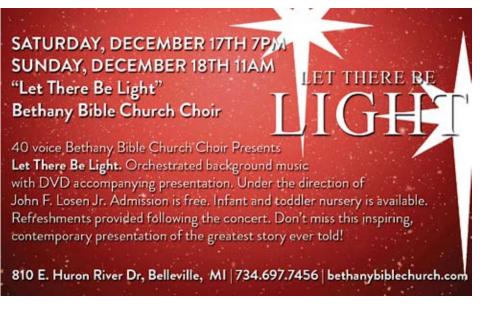
· Approved hiring Stephanie Battle as a special education paraprofessional at Edgemont starting Nov. 28 and Janice Eaton as a Class II Secretary at McBride as of Dec. 19. Eaton was present to be welcomed by the board; and

· Went into closed-door session to consider a student reinstatement. When the board came into regular session, it voted to reinstate the student conditionally. He had been a senior when expelled and he has since completed his credits online. The board agreed to issue his diploma, but he will not walk with the 2016 seniors since he was part of the 2015 class.

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The Belleville-Area

School Board (continued from page 1)



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Things to do in the Belleville area...

- Thursday, Dec. 15 Come join the Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue for a Holiday Bake Auction from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Ypsilanti Eagles, 2935 Holmes Road. Bid on delicious desserts and fill your holiday table with homemade baked goods. Donated baked goods can be dropped off Dec. 15 no later than 5 p.m. All proceeds benefit FMAR. Information: (734) 635-9141.
- Friday, Dec. 16 Friends Family Theater FREE Friday Movie Night, 7 p.m. in the Youth House at 7890 Tuttle Hill Road, at Bemis Road, Ypsilanti. "Veggies

Public Notice

In the 34th District Court State of Michigan Case No.: 16-4876-SP

TO: Andrew Michael Meyer

You are being sued in the 34^{th} District Court for the State of Michigan (Case No.: 16-4876-SP) by the Plaintiff, Michael J. Meyers for land contract forfeiture. The Complaint for Possession states that the Plaintiff has a right to recover possession of the property at issue and to recover money damages due to nonpayment of money and for material breach of the contract. Plaintiff is represented by Bryan M. Suliman, PLLC in this matter Plaintiff's attorney can be reached at (734) 699-7360.

The subject real property is situated in Sumpter Township, State of Michigan. The four (4) parcels at issue have the following tax IDs: 81 11699 0001 705; 81 11699 0001 706; 81 11699 0001 707, and; 81 11699 0001 708.

You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law at the 34th District Court on or before December 22, 2016. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint filed in this case. A copy of the Complaint is posted at 34th District Court and at the real property. A copy of the order is also being sent to you at your last known address by registered mail, return receipt requested. 34th District Court is located at 11131 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174 and the Court's telephone number is (734) 941-4462.

Publish: December 8, 2016; December 15, 2016; December 22, 2016

in the House" (2015 - 8 minutes) and "Miracle Maker, a Christmas Tale" (2016-90 minutes) Family films, fun, food, all for free. Questions: (734) 482-5074 or previews www.friendsfamilytheater.com

- Friday, Dec. 16 "Sounds of the Season - a Holiday Gift" by the Michigan Philharmonic and special guests the Belleville High School Choir at 8 p.m. at the Western Campus of Wayne County Community College, 9555 Haggerty Road. Open to the public at no cost. Tickets required. Box office: (734) 374-3200, www. wcccd.edu
- Saturday, Dec. 17 Belleville Area Museum Children's Christmas Ornament Workshops and photos with Santa, at noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m. Free framed photos of Santa
- Saturday, Dec. 17 The Belleville Community Band's Christmas Concert is at 7:30 p.m. at Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles Street.
- Saturday, Dec. 17 Sports card and collectibles show from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Comfort Inn & Suites, 1000 Orleans Blvd. (exit 13 of I-69) in Coldwater. Dealers from the tri-state region will be buying, selling, and trading both sport and non-sport cards and collectibles. Free attendance. Brian Mayne (260) 824-4867 or mcscards@ icloud.com or Facebook at mcs cards.
- Saturday, Dec. 17, and Sunday, Dec. 18 -- Bethany Bible Church, 810 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, will present its annual CHRISTmas Concert: "Let There Be Light" at 7 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. on Sunday. Free admission.
- Sunday, Dec. 18 To be announced: musical performance from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.
- Tuesday, Dec. 27 Give blood between 1 and 6:45 p.m. at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave.
- Saturday, Dec. 31 The public is welcome to a New Year's Eve party at the Moose Lodge 934 at the corner of Sumpter and Harris roads. Tickets in advance \$20 each; \$30 at the door. Dinner is 7-9 p.m. and Southern Heat Band plays from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Pizza and champagne at midnight. Reserve your table of eight. (734) 325-



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LIPGRADES EXTREME In this Two Bedroom Two Bath Ranch featuring Cathedral Ceilings, Rich Hardwood Floors, Gas Fireplace, Ceramic Tile Foyer and Granite Countertop Baths. Upgraded Cabinets & Granite Countertops. Deep and Extra Large Basement, 2 Car Attached Garage and Walkout Patio. \$150,000

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6315 DENTON . VAN BUREN CLASSIC LINES AND TIMELESS DESIGN. Impressive and Updated 4 Bedroom Victorian Home with Wrap Porch Master Bedroom with Fireplace, Hardwood Floors, Basement, High Energy Efficient Furnace and Updating Everywhere. 2 1/2 Car Garage PLUS Bonus Second Home w 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. \$194,900

PRIVACY AND QUALITY



21700 DALE DRIVE, SUMPTER DREAM SECLUDED LOCATION on Private Paved Street. Immaculate 4 Bedroom 2 1/2 Bath Open Kitchen, Livingroom with Fireplace, Central Air and Whole House Generator. 2 1/2 Car Attached and Heated Garage. It's Curb Appeal Plus on 1.35 Acre Parcel with Extra Wide Cement Drive and Parking Pad. \$225,000

AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP

VACANT MCKEAN 11+ ACRES RAWSONVILLE & JUDD 78 AC TORREY 2.48 ACRES PERC & SURVEY 2 PARCELS = 20 ACRES



6760 OAKVILLE WALTZ, SUMPTER
DOUBLE PARCEL FARM - 20 ACRES.
668x1293 Corner Parcel. Hard to Find Vinyl
Sided Farm Home with 3 Bedrooms, Family Room, Living Room, Dining Area, Small Basement, Newer Water Heater and Many Out Buildings and Paved Street. If you have been looking for Farmland - This is the one! \$219,900.

42915 WILLIS 4 SPLITS \$30,000 & \$40,000 26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES \$30,000 45885 BEMIS PAVED BUIDABLE LOT \$25,000 24409 SHERWOOD 1.15 ACRES \$30,000 20743 GRIFFIN COURT 1.4 AC \$29,500 ELWELL ACROSS FRM 29300 10A\$59,500

FINISHED BASEMENT



29065 BURNING TREE, ROMULUS NEW CARPET AND FRESH PAINT - Affordable and Immaculate 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Corner able and immaculate 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Corner Ranch with Open Kitchen, Family Room with Fireplace, Finished Basement with Wet Bar, Doorwall to Deck, Fenced Yard, Shed and 2 1/2 Car Attached Garage. BEAUTIFUL and Move Right In! Just Listed at \$109,900.

49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES \$180,000 BEMIS BY SAVAGE 6 ACRES \$65,000
BEMIS BY SAVAGE 6 ACRES \$65,000
VINING AND SIBLEY 21+ ACRES \$450,000
WILLOW ROAD 1.36 ACRES \$15,000 \$33,000 26455 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308

UPDATED AND 2+ACRES



23260 KARR, SUMPTER IMPRESSIVE AND UPDATED 4 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch with Granite Counter Tops & SS Appliance. Large Living Room with Fireplace, and Hardwood Floors. Formal Dining Room Master Bath with Jetted Tub and Separate Shower. Central air and ceiling fans, Attached Garage, Shed and on 2.2 Acres. \$209,900

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
45109 S SERVICE DRIVE HUGE FRONTAGE
2.29 ACRES. SUPER DEVELOPMENT
PARCEL WITH ALL UTILITIES \$287,500 47441 MARTZ ROAD 17+ ACRES VACANT BOG ROAD .55 ACRES



9191 RAWSONVILLE, SUMPTER LIVE THE BETTER COUNTRY LIFE and All of the Extras. Featuring Huge Rooms, Impressive Hardwood Floors, Large and Open Kitchen, FULL Basement and More. 1.3 Acres, 30x60 Pole Barn (with Electric and Cement Floor), Paved Street and Immediate Possession

VACANT BOG ROAD 1.36 ACRES \$30,000 VACANT BOG RD 12.83ACRES \$129,000 6422 GILMORE 82X165 ALL UTIL \$15,000 739 SAVAGE PAVED ST 1.02 ACRES \$35,000 HURON TOWNSHIP

26129 LEONTINE DOUBLE LOT \$24,000







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